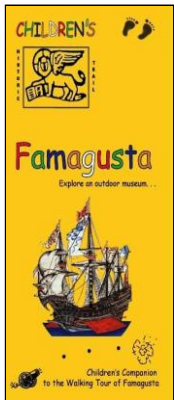




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## New Brochure Makes Exploring Famagusta's Outdoor Museum (Even More) Fun for Kids!



Exploring Famagusta's outdoor museum has become easier and more fun for children! The USAID-funded Supporting Activities that Value the Environment (SAVE) project is pleased to have produced a colorful Children's Famagusta Walking Tour brochure, a companion piece to the "Famagusta: Explore an Outdoor Museum" brochure, which highlights the old city of Famagusta's unique place in the

region's history. The children's version is fun and interactive, educating children through unique fun-facts about more than thirty of the old city's most interesting sites. Like the original, the children's version of the walking tour aims to increase the awareness of residents and visitors alike regarding the importance of preserving Famagusta's rich cultural heritage for future generations. Along with the Cultural Heritage Database ([www.save-cyprusheritage.com](http://www.save-cyprusheritage.com)) designed to provide accurate and accessible information on sites throughout the island, the Famagusta brochure series

was developed as part of SAVE's overall efforts to build local capacity to better protect and manage Cyprus' cultural and natural resources.



*The new map provides fun facts for kids!*

## Cypriot Potato Growers Receive International Certification



Thanks to technical assistance and training provided by the USAID-funded EDGE project, a Turkish Cypriot potato growers group was the first in their community to receive a GLOBALGAP certification, a protocol that sets voluntary standards, or Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), which are applied in the growing of agricultural products. Besides recognizing improved standards in production in the Turkish Cypriot community, this GLOBALGAP certification will improve trading opportunities for producers in regional and global markets where consumers prefer GLOBALGAP-certified products. GLOBALGAP certification guarantees that a product does not contain chemical, physical or microbiological contaminants that can cause health hazards. In addition, the certification ensures that production complies with applicable agriculture standards in the area where production takes place or in the country where the products will be consumed. As such, GLOBALGAP certified products command higher prices at the market.

*The mission of USAID/Cyprus is to encourage cooperation between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot individuals and organizations to reduce tensions and promote a climate that will foster reconciliation and a durable peace settlement.*

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### *Economic Development and Growth for Enterprises*

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EDGE is helping passion fruit growers review the results of their soil and water analyses and prepare their fields accordingly. GLOBALGAP preparations are underway for more groups of potato and artichoke growers in the Turkish Cypriot community. In collaboration with the Cyprus Turkish Chamber of Industry, EDGE is conducting trainings for Fruitlogistica participants, emphasizing the economic development aspects of exhibition attendance. EDGE is working with the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Shopkeepers and Artisans (TCCSA) on a tailored business association capacity building program, beginning with a diagnostic evaluation of its strengths and weaknesses and a comparison with international best practices.

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### *Resource Efficiency Achievement Project*

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The management training programs organized by REAP have been well received and attended. Monitoring at two of the recent energy efficiency installations indicates that savings are higher than expected. Although the final data are not in, estimates are that an electrical installation has yielded savings of approximately 20% and a mechanical installation has yielded savings in excess of 50%. Both SMEs have gone on to install additional energy efficiency equipment with their own funds and are encouraging others to follow suit.

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### *Capacity Development and Training*

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CADET is now in full swing, exploring IT capacity building measures, including possible test centers for European Computer Driving License (ECDL) programs and programs to train 400 vocational and technical education teachers in Active Teaching Skills.

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### *Action for Cooperation and Trust*

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ACT will break ground for the renovation of the Grand Turkish Bath in Nicosia on February 3. Ambassador Urbancic will attend the event. Efforts continue at the Armenian Church and Monastery, where a final business plan and long term sustainability report have been finalized. Last month's event marking the end of ACT's "Exploring Europe and Ourselves" project, which focused on geography and identity issues, received positive media attention, including an in-depth article in the leading Greek Cypriot newspaper, *Phileleftheros*.

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### *Supporting Activities that Value the Environment*

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SAVE is assisting with the upgrade a water testing facility in Kumkoy—the major well field that supplies water to Nicosia, Famagusta, and the majority of the Turkish Cypriot community. SAVE organized side-by-side consultation and on-site field analysis with local partners and provided essential equipment for sampling, testing, and analyzing the water. The overall goal of the project is to strengthen the capacity of environmental managers to make better decisions for water management based on scientific studies. Work continued on the walkways and the mosaics at Soli. The final book documenting the works at Soli is also near completion. SAVE is compiling a brief informational guide on plastic bag alternatives and economic benefits of minimizing or eliminating plastic bag usage in preparation for their "Say No to Plastic Bags" campaign.

*Ambassador Urbancic visits the eleventh century Church of Panayia Perghamiotissa in Akanthu/Tatlisu (top), where SAVE has been working with local experts to document the remains of the original wall paintings and other architectural elements; stabilize the structure and the wall paintings; repair the roof of the structure (bottom); improve landscaping; and to secure the site from vandalism. Besides saving a unique part of Cyprus' cultural heritage from imminent destruction, the UN Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage Issues is considering the work at Akanthu/Tatlisu a model for practical collaboration between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots.*



## News from Nicosia

### January 16

President Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat met to conclude discussions regarding "Governance and Power Sharing," which they have addressed since September 2008. The leaders will move to the "Property" issue next week. There are a total of six subjects to be discussed, the remaining being the EU, Economy, Security, and Territory.

## OUR PROJECTS

- The **Action for Cooperation and Trust (ACT)** program mainstreams the concepts of conflict resolution in over 120 projects that encourage Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to work on issues of common concern and solve problems together. Projects are currently underway in the areas of youth, education and tolerance, civil society strengthening, sustainable development and cultural heritage preservation. ACT is funded through a cooperative agreement between USAID and the UN Development Program (UNDP).
- The **Cyprus Partnership for Economic Growth (CyPEG)** includes activities that support economic growth in the Turkish Cypriot community to decrease the disparities between the communities and promote reconciliation. CyPEG is implemented by U.S. contractors under different USAID contract mechanisms.
  - The objective of the **Economic Development and Growth for Enterprises (EDGE)** project is to strengthen the domestic and international competitiveness of Turkish-Cypriot small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and help restructure the financial sector so that SMEs can thrive.
  - The **Resource Efficiency Achievement Program (REAP)** promotes more efficient use of water and energy by conducting audits and upgrades of representative business establishments and households. REAP also provides technical assistance to Turkish Cypriot energy experts.
  - The **Supporting Activities that Value the Environment (SAVE)** project focuses on improving (1) the competitiveness, financial status, and quality of basic services and infrastructure to more easily meet international and EU standards and (2) Turkish Cypriot capacity to manage natural and cultural resources for economic growth.
  - The **Capacity Development and Training (CADET)** project complements other USG-funded programs in Cyprus by providing capacity development and training in critical areas.